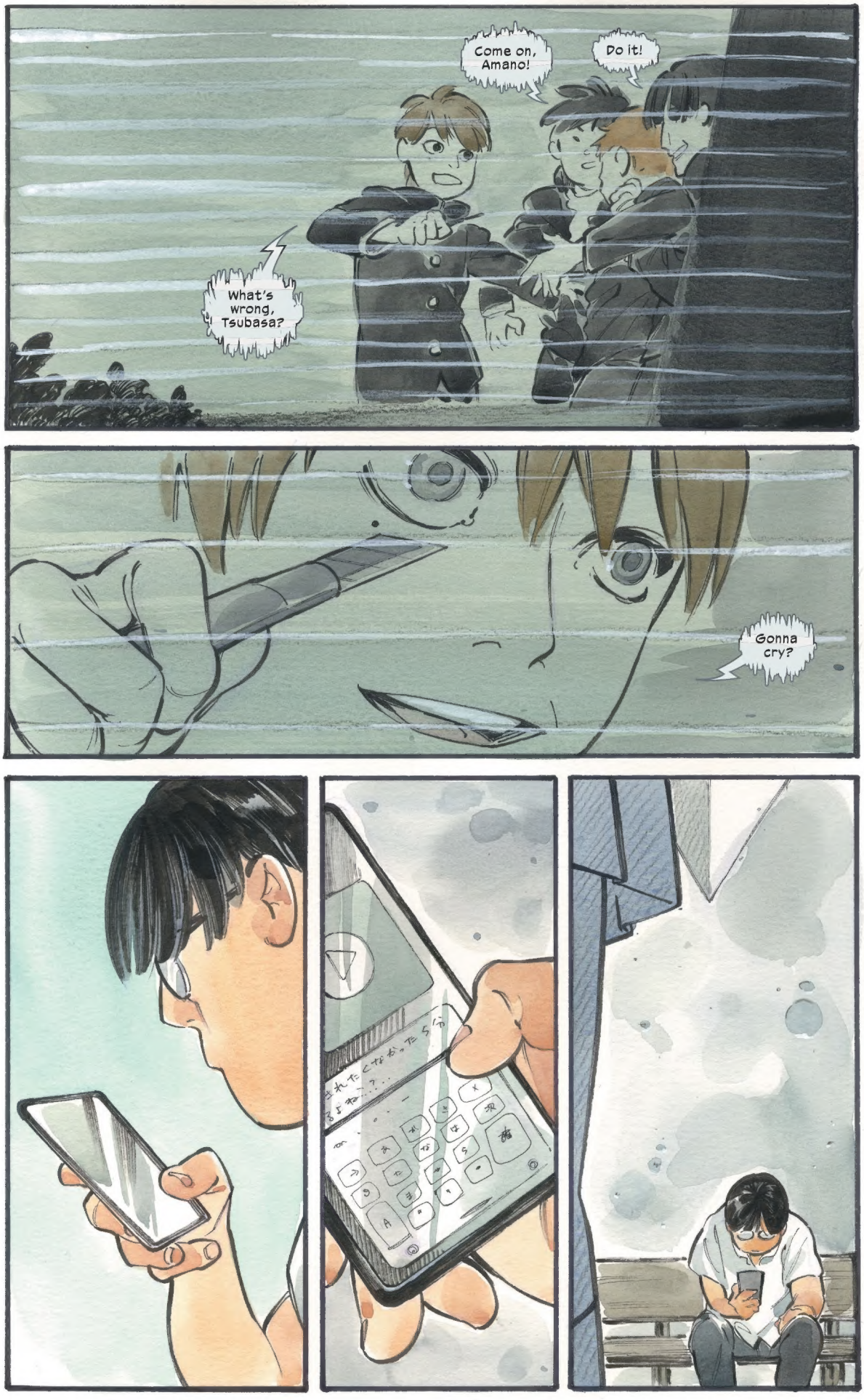
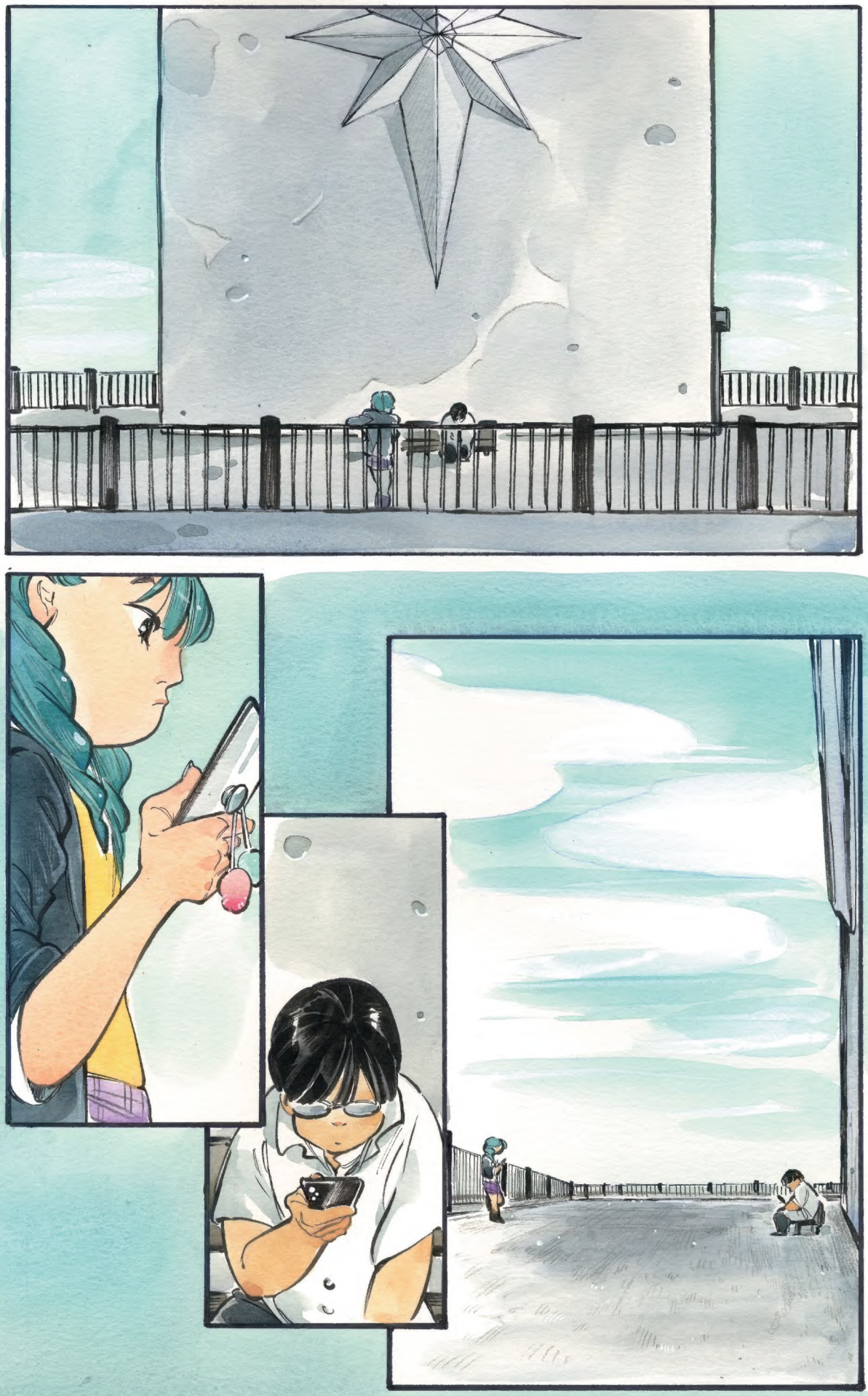
MARVEL

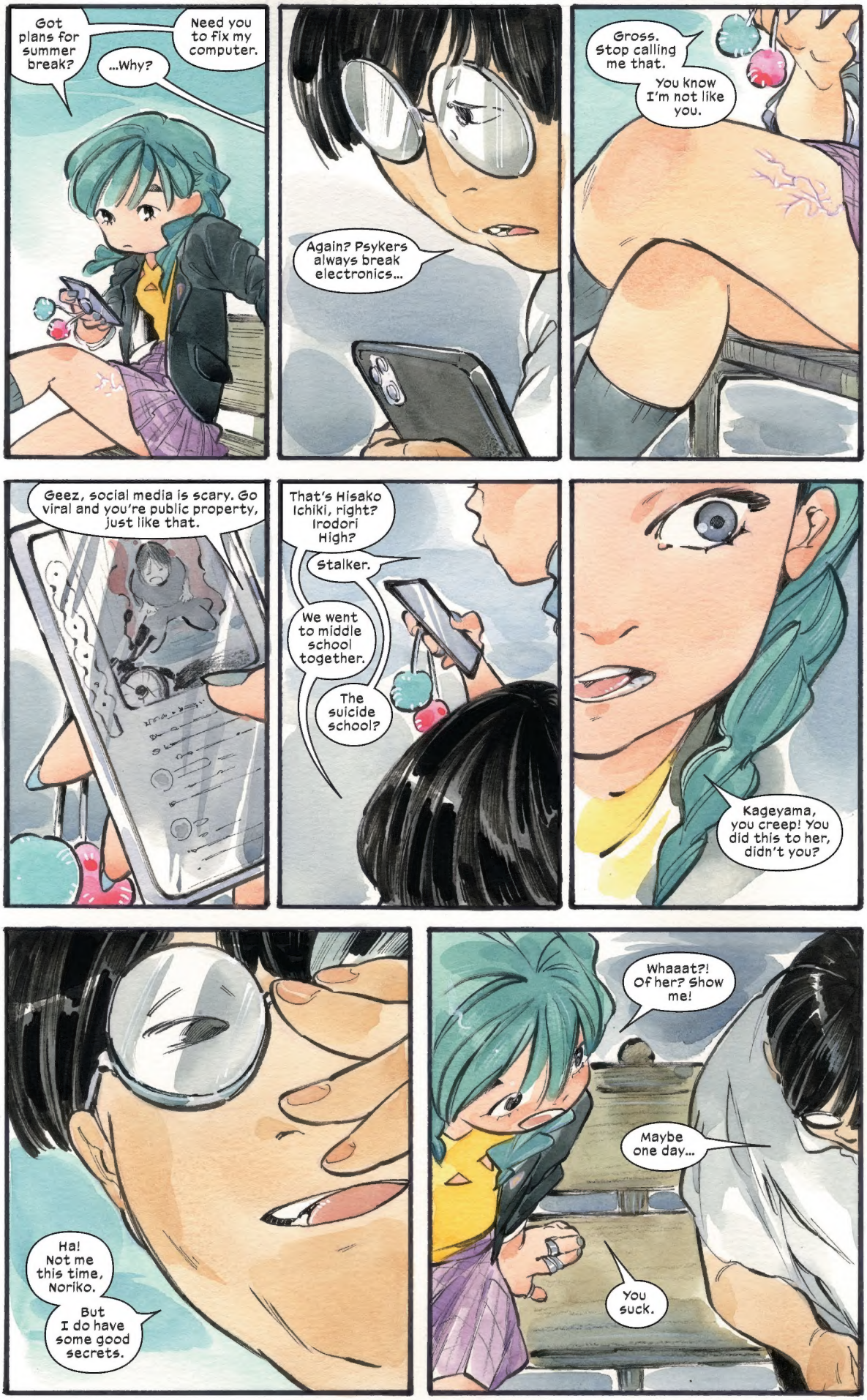
ULTIMATE X-MEN

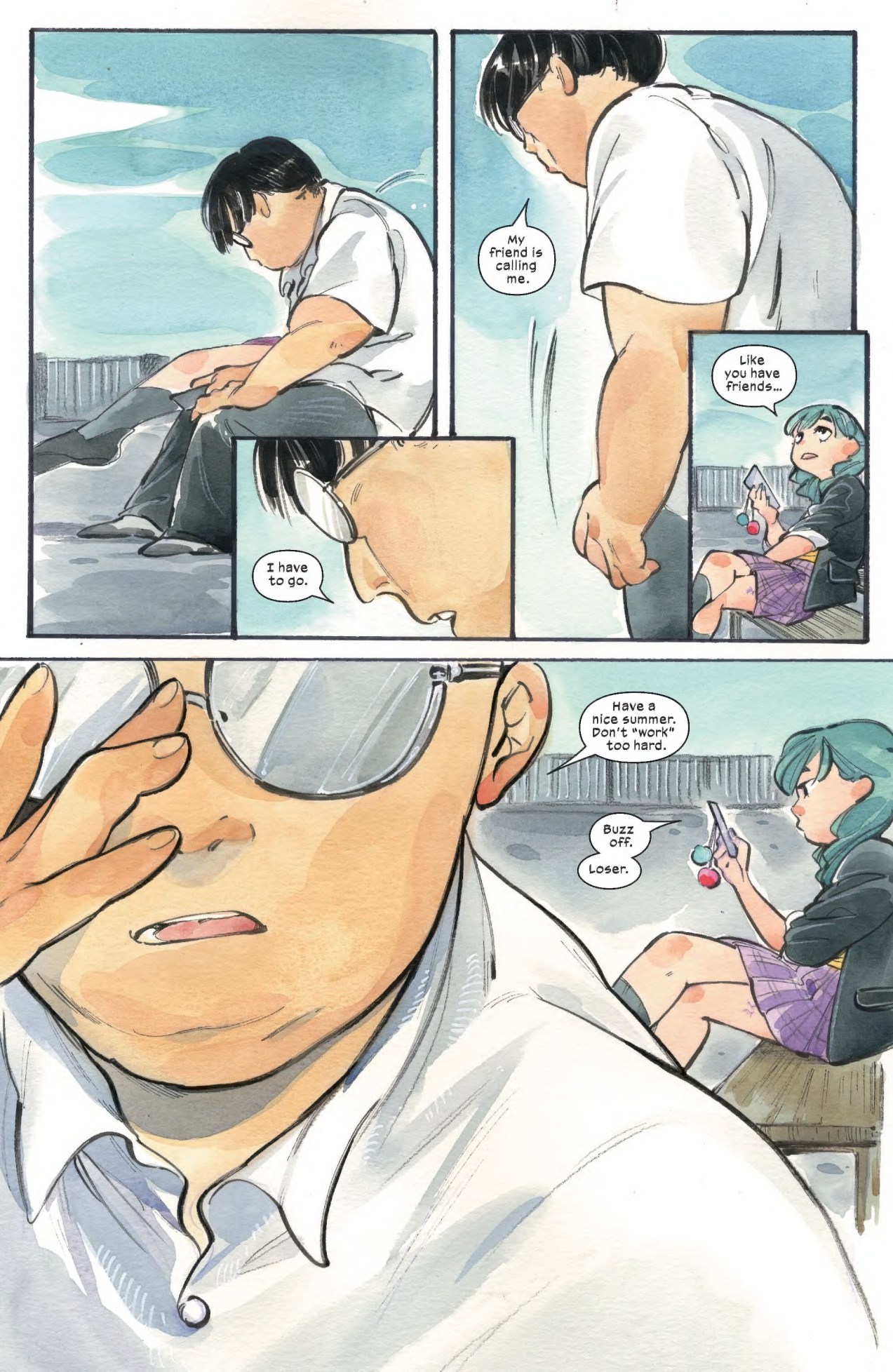
PEACH MOMOKO

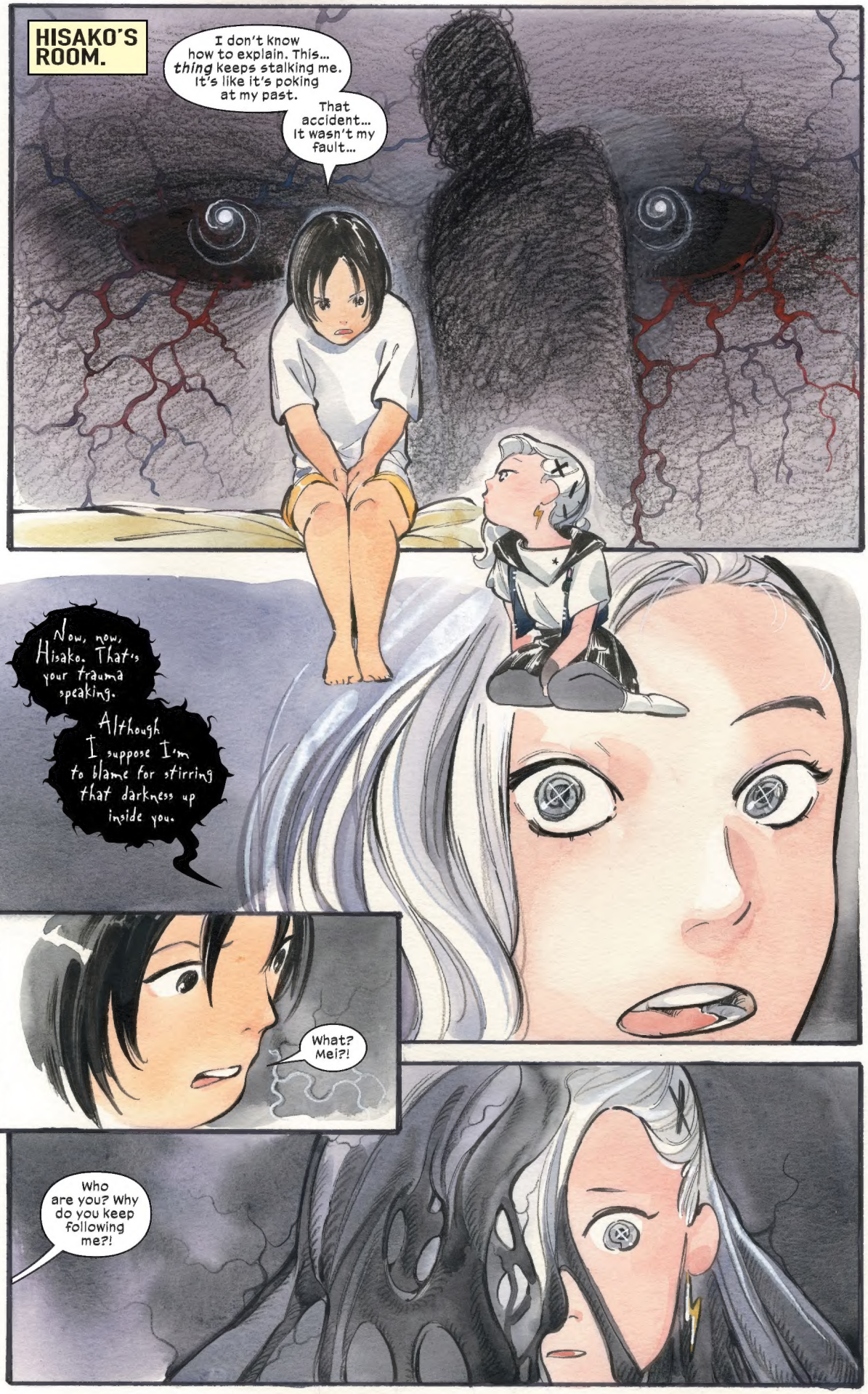
JULY 2024 | RATED T+

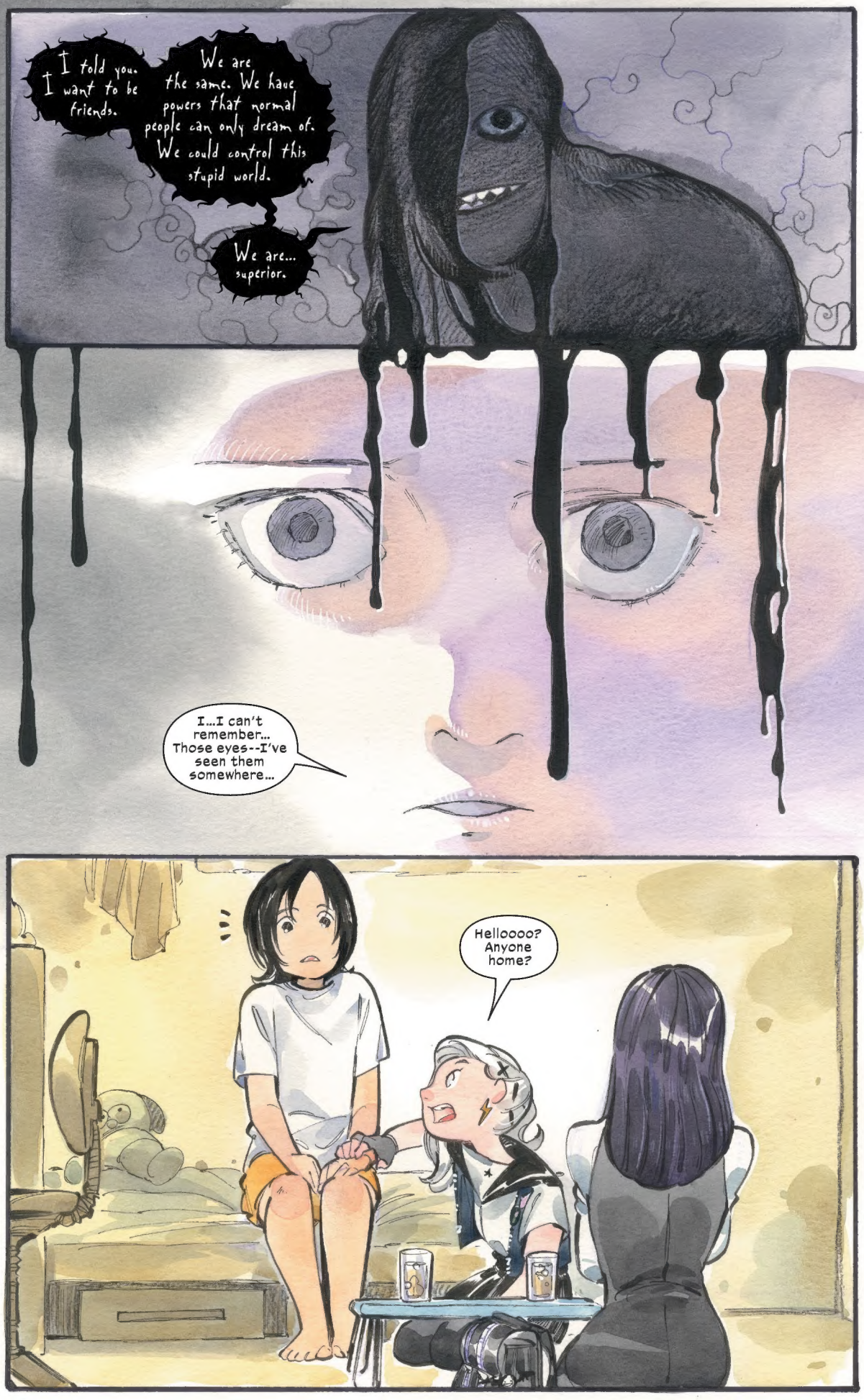

Come on, Amano!
Do it!
What's wrong, Tsubasa?
Gonna cry?



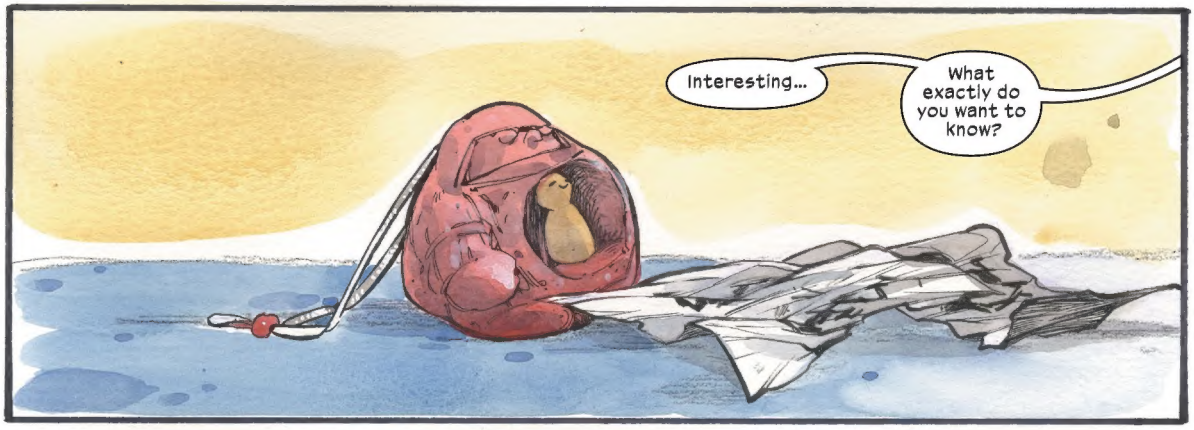

Got plans for summer break?
Need you to fix my computer.
...Why?
Again? Psykers always break electronics...
Gross. Stop calling me that.
You know I'm not like you.
Geez, social media is scary. Go viral and you're public property, just like that.
That's Hisako Ichiki, right? Irodori High?
Stalker.
We went to middle school together.
The suicide school?
Kageyama, you creep! You did this to her, didn't you?
Ha! Not me this time, Noriko.
But I do have some good secrets.
Whaaat?! Of her? Show me!
Maybe one day...
You suck.

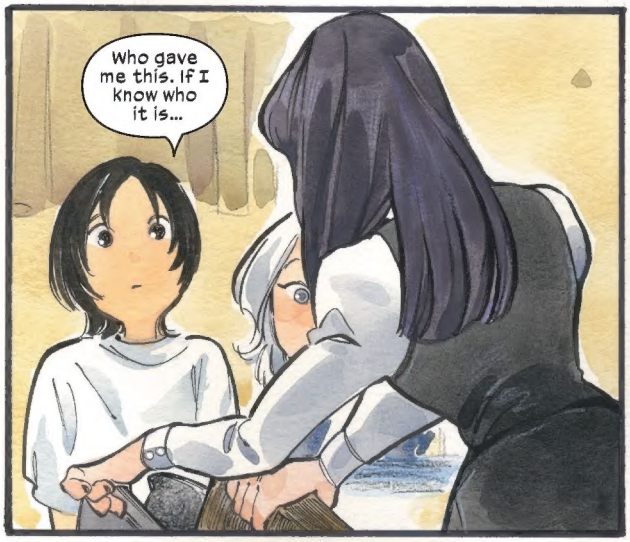

I have to go.
My friend is calling me.
Like you have friends...
Have a nice summer. Don't "work" too hard.
Buzz off.
Loser.

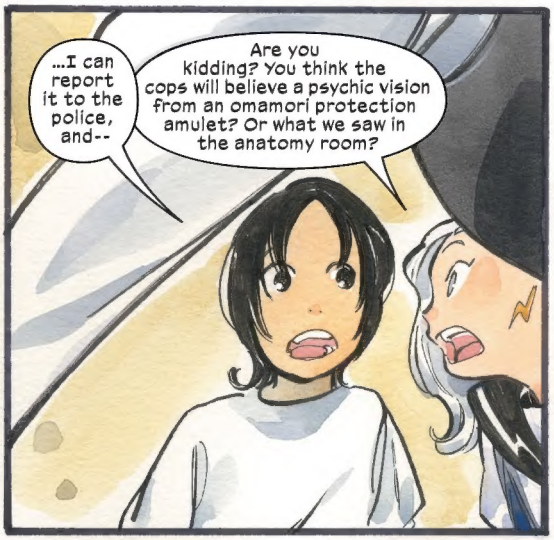

HISAKO'S ROOM.
I don't know how to explain. This... *thing* keeps stalking me. It's like it's poking at my past.
That accident... It wasn't my fault...
Now, now, Hisako. That's your trauma speaking.
Although I suppose I'm to blame for stirring that darkness up inside you.
What? Mei?!
Who are you? Why do you keep following me?!


I told you. I want to be friends.
We are the same. We have powers that normal people can only dream of. We could control this stupid world.
We are... superior.
I...I can't remember... Those eyes--I've seen them somewhere...
Helloooo? Anyone home?

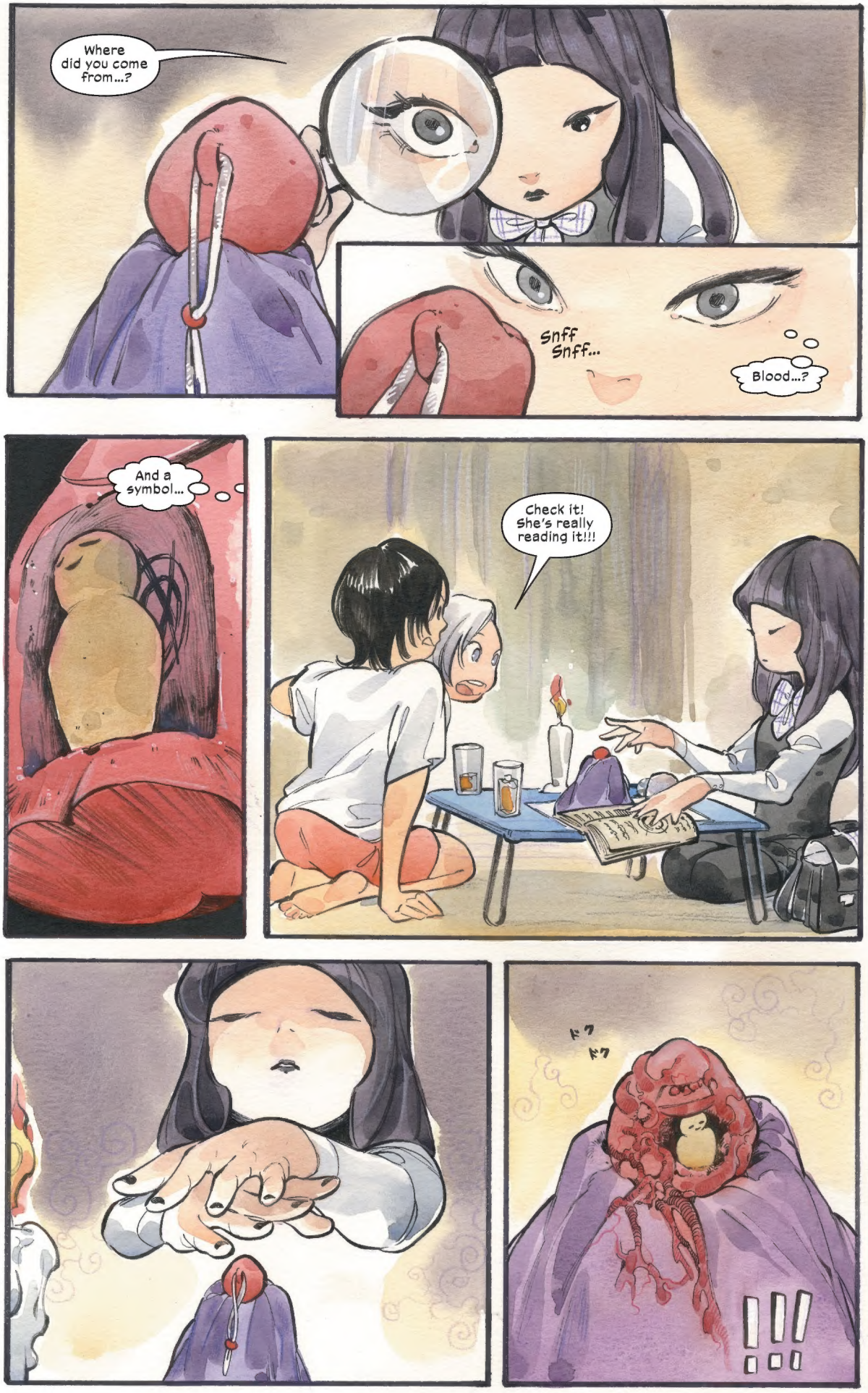
Sip
Hi-chan, snap out of it! I know that video freaked you out, but you're the one who said you wanted to talk to Nico!
Sorry...
Nico, you're a psychic, right? I wanted to see if you can get a reading from something of mine...
Show me.
It's this...


Interesting...
What exactly do you want to know?


Who gave me this. If I know who it is...


...I can report it to the police, and--
Are you kidding? You think the cops will believe a psychic vision from an omamori protection amulet? Or what we saw in the anatomy room?

Ahem.
If we can begin...


Where did you come from...?
Snff Snff...
Blood...?
And a symbol...
Check it! She's really reading it!!!
ドク ドク
!!!

What did you do? Cast some kind of magic...?
No, it wasn't--
パチ
KRSSH
That should *not* have happened...

AAA
AA
A
AHH!
Not yet...
We need more time to get to know each other.

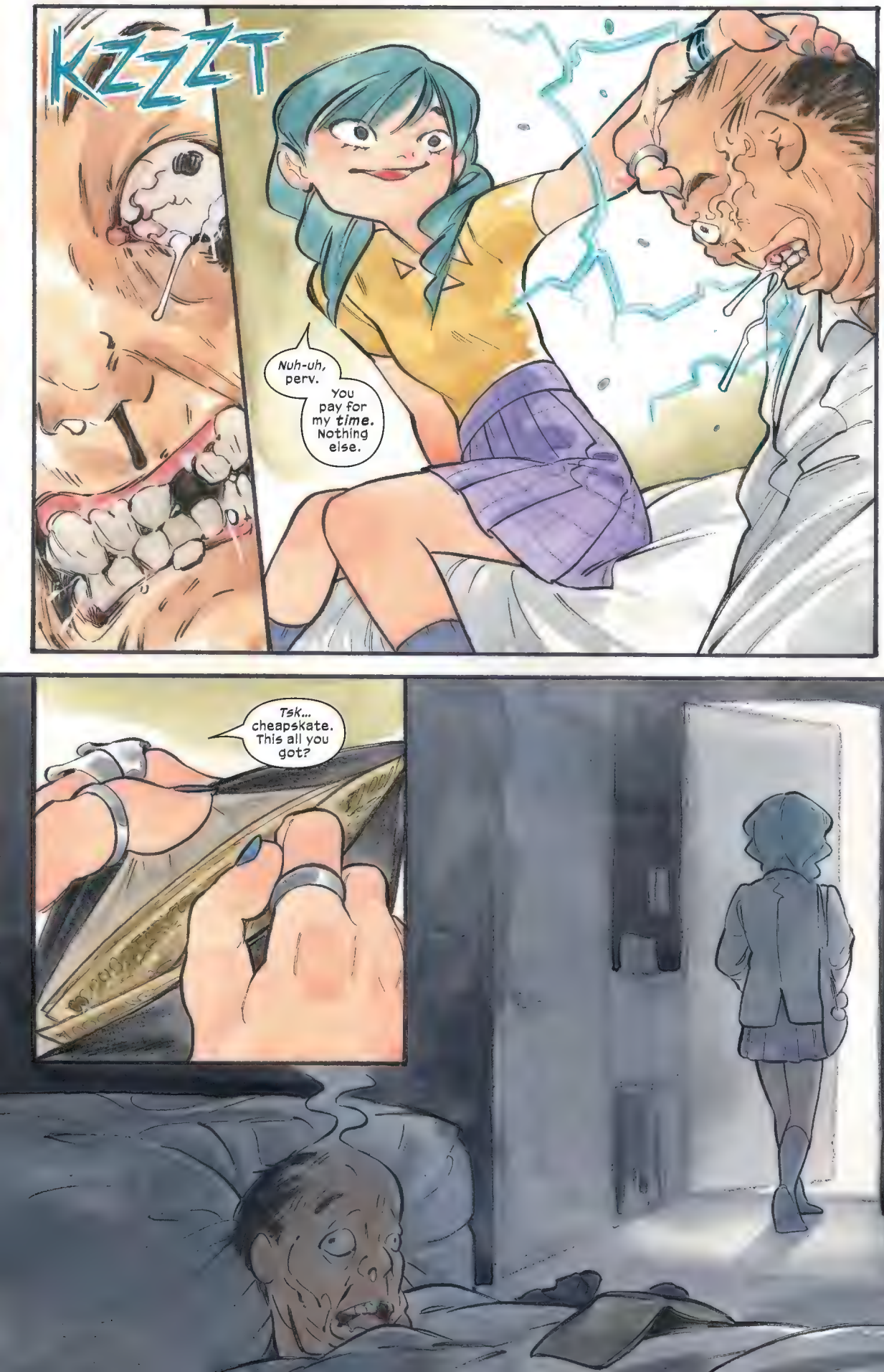
It's here!
What is that?!
That!!! That's the thing I told you about!
Be!
Gone!

Did you get it...?
This... thing...is what has been stalking you?
ごろ豆蔵!!

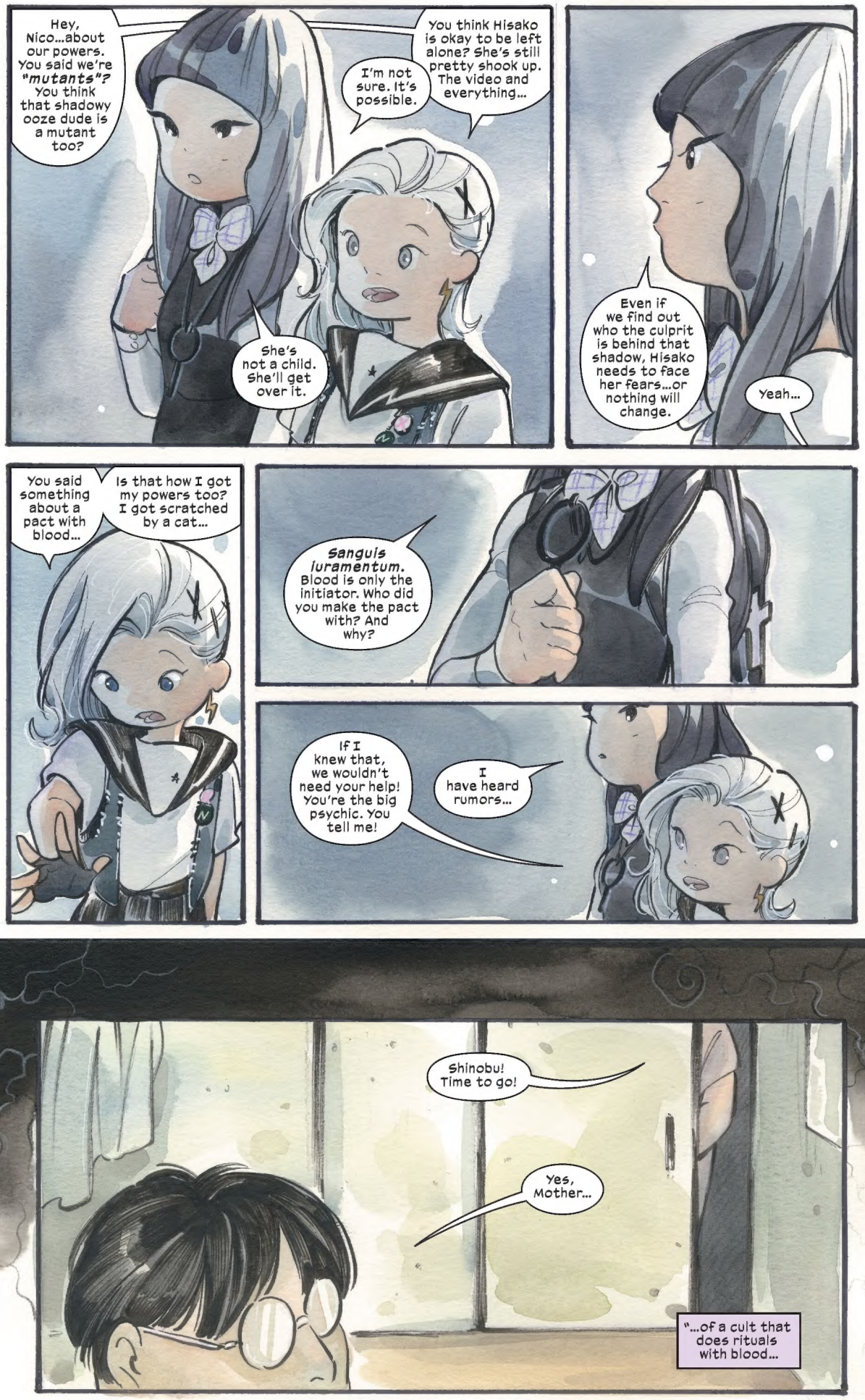
FWOOOH
Whatever you're doing, it's *working!* Keep going!
Nico! I didn't know you could do that!
Neither did I.

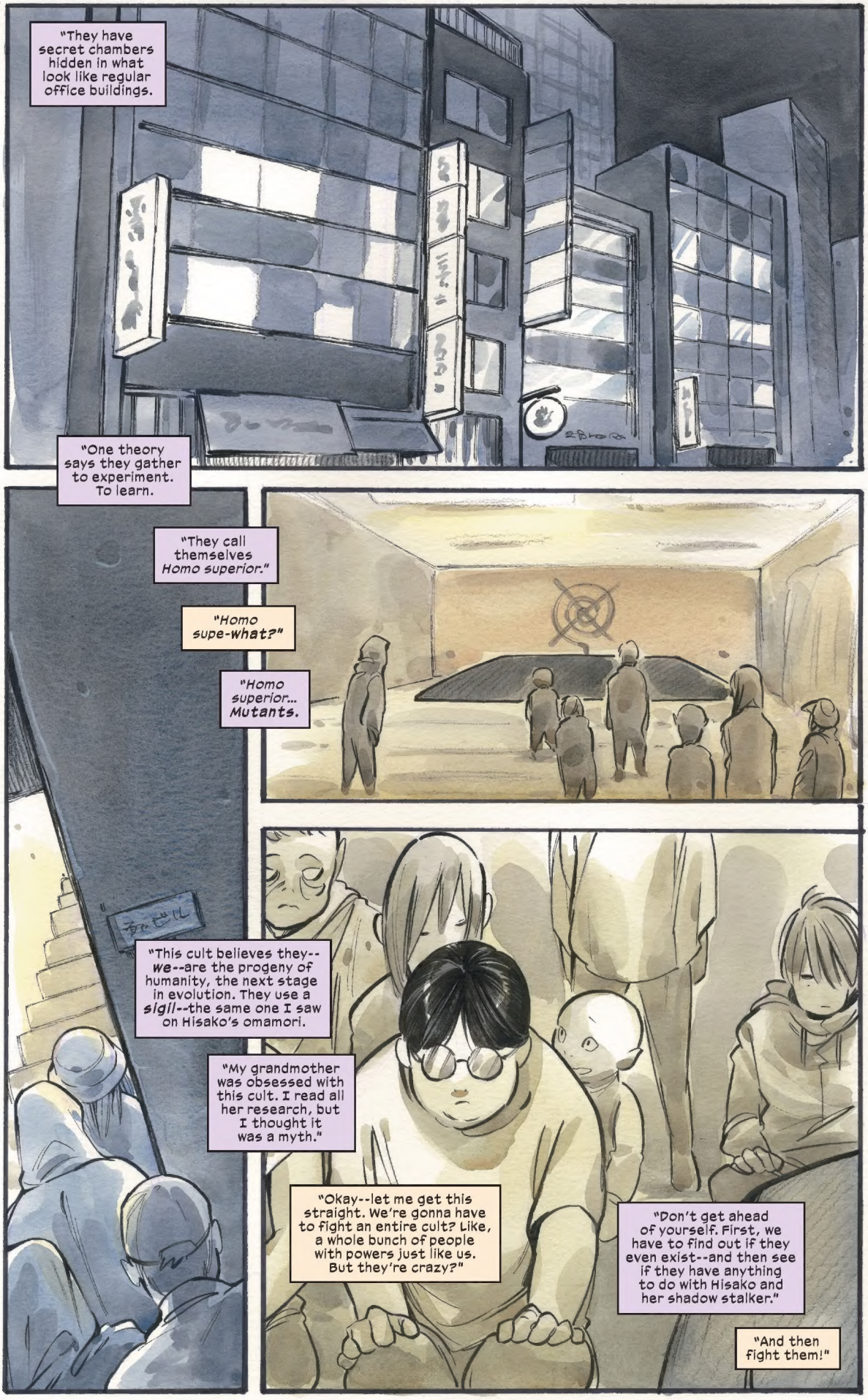
My grandmother gave me this.
There's more to it than I thought.
The omamori!
A pact made with *blood*...
I've read about this in my grandmother's research. So, it really is true!

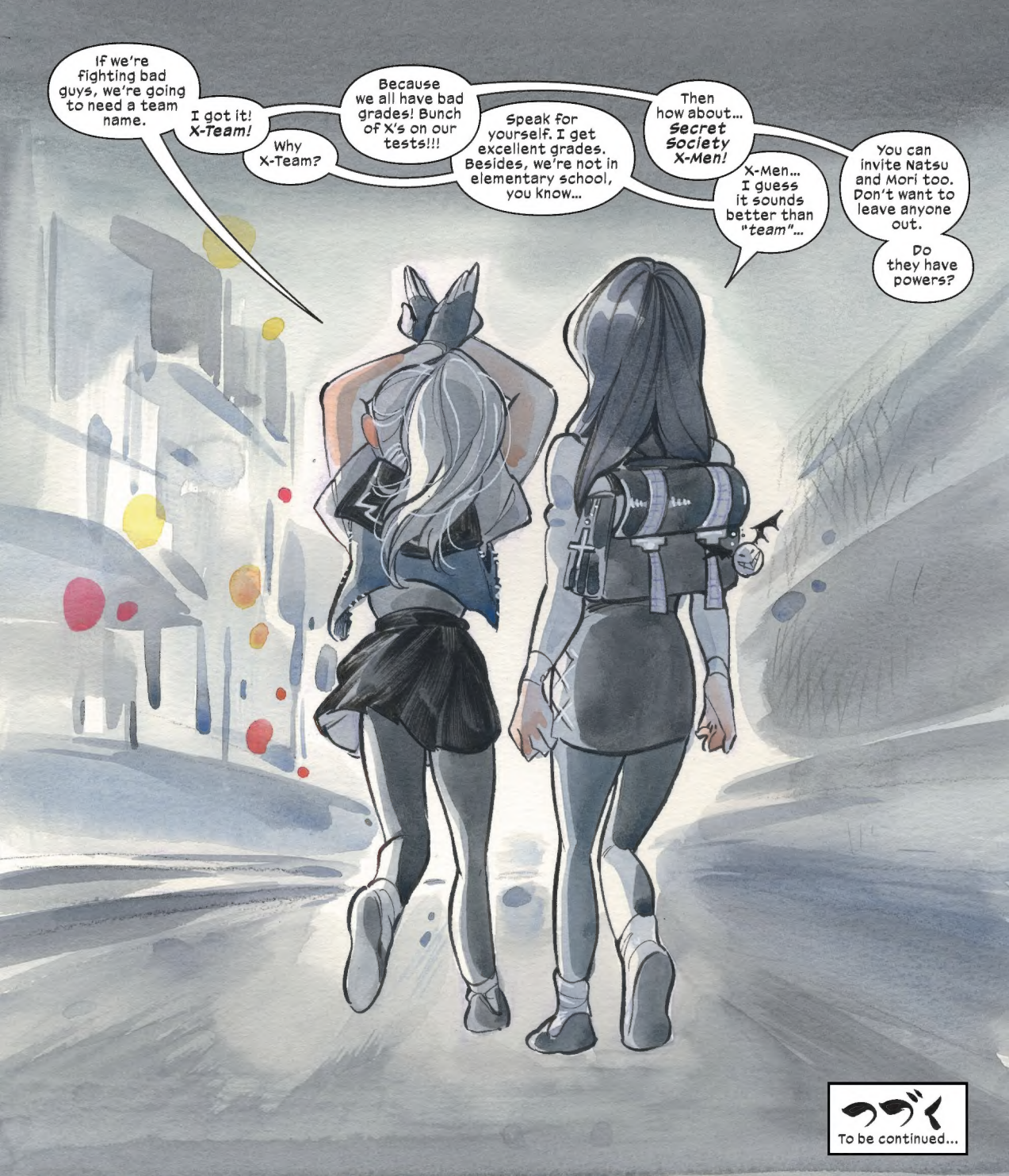
What are your plans for summer break, Surge? Can I call you?
I dunno...
I didn't know you had a scar on your thigh.
Can I touch it? I'll be gentle.
?


KZZZT
Nuh-uh, perv.
You pay for my time. Nothing else.
Tsk... cheapskate. This all you got?

She looks like trouble. And not the fun kind...


Hey, Nico...about our powers. You said we're "mutants"? You think that shadowy ooze dude is a mutant too?
You think Hisako is okay to be left alone? She's still pretty shook up. The video and everything...
I'm not sure. It's possible.
She's not a child. She'll get over it.
Even if we find out who the culprit is behind that shadow, Hisako needs to face her fears...or nothing will change.
Yeah...
You said something about a pact with blood...
Is that how I got my powers too? I got scratched by a cat...
Sanguis iuramentum. Blood is only the initiator. Who did you make the pact with? And why?
If I knew that, we wouldn't need your help! You're the big psychic. You tell me!
I have heard rumors...
Shinobu! Time to go!
Yes, Mother...
"...of a cult that does rituals with blood...


"They have secret chambers hidden in what look like regular office buildings.
"One theory says they gather to experiment. To learn.
"They call themselves *Homo superior.*"
"*Homo supe-what?*"
"*Homo superior... **Mutants.***
"This cult believes they--***we***--are the progeny of humanity, the next stage in evolution. They use a ***sigil***--the same one I saw on Hisako's omamori.
"My grandmother was obsessed with this cult. I read all her research, but I thought it was a myth."
"Okay--let me get this straight. We're gonna have to fight an entire cult? Like, a whole bunch of people with powers just like us. But they're crazy?"
"Don't get ahead of yourself. First, we have to find out if they even exist--and then see if they have anything to do with Hisako and her shadow stalker."
"And then fight them!"


If we're fighting bad guys, we're going to need a team name.
I got it! X-Team!
Why X-Team?
Because we all have bad grades! Bunch of X's on our tests!!!
Speak for yourself. I get excellent grades. Besides, we're not in elementary school, you know...
Then how about... Secret Society X-Men!
X-Men... I guess it sounds better than "team"...
You can invite Natsu and Mori too. Don't want to leave anyone out.
Do they have powers?
つづく
To be continued...

LEXICON

SUPERSTITIONS

FALLEN BABY TEETH

When the bottom row of your baby teeth fall out, throw them onto your rooftop to grow healthy, strong adult teeth. And when the top row of baby teeth fall out, throw them under your house or patio.

"I left the window open last night and got bit by a bunch of mosquitos..."

"Kuwabara kuwabara."

"KUWABARA KUWABARA"

Say the phrase "kuwabara kuawabara" to avoid jinxes and bad luck.

Legend says that most of Japan had problems with thunderstorms, but a place called Kuwabara was the only area that didn't get hit by the storm.

So "Kuwabara" became a protection spell.

You write the kanji "person" (人) three times on your palm and swallow it.

They say this releases anxiety and helps you calm down.